



AF
JGW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ed AUSTIN, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/607,010 Group Art Unit: 3733

FILED: June 26, 2003 EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 39262/285776
(01-31-0780)

DATE: September 28, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the specification and claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Final Office Action mailed August 7, 2006 (the "Action").

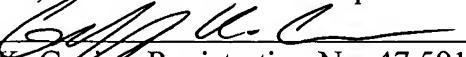
Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 20 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 28, 2006.


Geoffrey K. Gavin - Registration No. 47,591